State Road 327 Curve Correction with Road Realignment
DeKalb County

Garrett Public Library

Jan. 12, 2017
Welcome

- Rickie Clark, INDOT Office of Public Involvement
- Purpose/explanation of public hearing
- Public hearing format
- Visit our sign-in table
- Informational handouts
- Submitting public comments for hearings transcript
- Project display area
Welcome

- **Introduction of INDOT Project Team**
  - Project Management
  - Public Involvement
  - Fort Wayne District – INDOT Regional Office
  - Environmental Services
  - Real Estate
- **SJCA Engineers**
  - Design Team
- **Recognition of elected and local public officials**
Public Hearing

- Sign-in at attendance table to be added to project mailing list
- A public hearing notice was mailed to known property owners within project area
- Announcement of this hearing was posted on INDOT website. A media release was also issued
- A copy of presentation and project documentation is available on-line via INDOT website

**Legal notice publishing:**
- The Auburn Star
  - Wednesday, Dec. 28, 2016 & Wednesday, Jan. 4, 2017
Project Stakeholders

- Indiana Department of Transportation
- Indiana Division Federal Highway Administration
- DeKalb County
- Elected and local officials
- Community residents and citizens
- Commuters
- Businesses
- Emergency services
- Schools
- Trucking Industry
Project Development Process

1. Project Selection
   Early Coordination

2. Environmental phase begins
   Purpose & Need
   Develop alternatives

3. Preliminary design phase
   Release environmental document for public review and comment

4. Additional work to finalize environmental document and project design

5. Real Estate Acquisition
   Project Letting
   Construction

Public Hearing
Environmental Document

- Requirement of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
  - Requires INDOT to analyze and evaluate the impacts of a proposed project to the natural and socio-economic environments
  - Impacts are described in environmental document
    - The proposed action to address road curvature on SR 327 involves impact to the natural environment
- Environmental document released for public involvement
  - December 2016
  - Is available for review via public repositories
Environmental Document

- **Environmental Process**
  - Establish Purpose and Need – Why is the project being proposed?
  - Develop a number of possible alternatives
    - The “Do Nothing” alternative is a baseline for comparison
  - Evaluate and screen alternatives
  - Identify a preferred alternative
  - Solicit public comment on environmental document and preliminary design plan
  - Solicit, address and fully consider public comment as part of decision making process
  - Finalize and approve environmental document
Environmental Documentation

A number of items are evaluated

- Right-of-way
- Streams, Wetlands, and Other Waters
- Floodplains
- Endangered Species
- Farmland
- Cultural Resources (Historic/Archaeological)
- Parks and Recreational Lands (Trails)
- Air Quality
- Noise
- Community Impacts
- Environmental Justice
- Hazardous Materials
- Permits
- Mitigation
- Public Involvement
- Commercial Development
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Garrett Public Library
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107 West Houston Street
Garrett, IN 46738
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Project Overview

- **Curve Correction**
  - Proposed curve corrections on SR 327 between CR 34 and CR 36 in DeKalb County
  - Realign curves currently forming 90 degree junctions by constructing new alignment located south of existing roadway

- **Purpose and Need**
  - Enhance & improve safety within the corridor – this is a safety project
    - 24 vehicular accidents from 2010 – 2013
    - 12 – property damage; 11 – personal injury; 1 fatality (source INDOT Engineer’s Report)
  - Address two substandard horizontal curves at the north and south junctions of CR 34
  - Improve the horizontal alignment of the road
  - Improve sight distance
  - Upgrade road to current standards
Alternatives Considered

- **No Build**
  - Would not improve safety within the SR 327 corridor
  - Does not address the two substandard horizontal curves

- **Roadway curve correction with road realignment**
  - Addresses both substandard horizontal curves forming ninety degree junctions
  - New alignment to be located south of existing roadway
Project Details
Project Details

Existing Typical Roadway Section

- Two 11-foot lanes and 2-foot unpaved shoulder

Proposed Typical Roadway Section and details

- Two 11-foot lanes and 2-foot paved shoulder and 2-foot unpaved shoulder
- Begin project approximately 685 feet south of CR 36 and end approximately 350 feet north of CR 34
- Eliminate the south connection and provide a cul-de-sac
- Realign the roadway to the south of the current east west segment
- Realign roadway to the east at the north tie in point. Provide more room in front of residences
- Reconnect east west segment of old SR 327 south of the 90 degree turn
- Improve drainage by roadside ditches and a new box culvert
- Box culvert: 18’-0 span by 4’-0 rise sumped 1 foot
Maintenance of Traffic

- Existing Roadway will be open to traffic during most of construction.
- Existing roadway at the tie in points with proposed alignment will need to be closed for short period of time.
- Detour route will be US 6 to I-69 to SR 8.
Real Estate Acquisition Process

ACQUISITION
ACQUIRING REAL PROPERTY
FOR FEDERAL AND FEDERAL-AID
PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS

June 2005
Real Estate Acquisition Process

- "Uniform Act of 1970"
  - All federal, state and local governments must comply
  - Requires an offer for just compensation

- Acquisition Process
  - Appraisals
  - Review Appraisals
  - Negotiations

- INDOT Real Estate Team to work with impacted property owners
Real Estate Impact

- **Right-of-way**
  - Permanent R/W: 10 acres
    - Agricultural
    - Residential
    - Permanent right-of-way is land/property purchased by INDOT and becomes land/property owned by INDOT
  - Temporary R/W: 0.3 acre
    - Temporary right-of-way refers to land/property needed during the construction of a project
    - INDOT pays the legal owner(s) for the right to use the right-of-way for construction purposes
    - At no time does INDOT own land/property identified as temporary R/W
Project Schedule

- Public Hearing: 1/12/17
- Public comments requested by COB 1/31/17
- INDOT review and consideration of public comments; finalize environmental document and design; reach project decision – Spring 2017
- Real estate acquisition phase – Spring/Summer 2017
- Construction: Spring 2018
Feedback

- **INDOT would like to hear from you**
  - Talk with INDOT project team members
  - Comment sheet in information packet
  - Email or mail comments to INDOT
  - Sign-in list to be added to project mailing list
  - Visit INDOT Fort Wayne District page at [www.in.gov/indot/2703.htm](http://www.in.gov/indot/2703.htm)
  - All comments are very much appreciated and will be given full consideration by project team
Submit Public Comments

- Submit public comments using the options described in first page of information packet:
  - Public Comment Form
  - Via email
  - Participating during public comment session via microphone
  - Verbal comments recorded and transcribed for inclusion into public hearings transcript

- **INDOT respectfully requests comments be submitted by Tuesday, Jan. 31, 2017**

- All comments submitted will become part of public record, entered into transcript, reviewed, evaluated and given full consideration during decision-making process.
Next Steps

- **Public and project stakeholder input**
  - Submit comments via options described on page 1 of information packet

- **INDOT review and evaluation**
  - All comments are given full consideration during decision-making process
  - Address comments, finalize/approve environmental document, complete project design

- **Communicate a decision**
  - INDOT will notify project stakeholders of decision
  - Work through local media, social media outlets; paid legal notice
  - Make project documents accessible via repositories

- **Questions? Contact Public Involvement Team**
Public Involvement Team

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  rclark@indot.in.gov

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  INDOT Fort Wayne District Office
  (866) 227-3555
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Thank You

- Please visit with INDOT project officials following the public comment session
- Project Open House
  - Project maps, displays, real estate acquisition table, INDOT project team, and informal Q & A
  - INDOT Fort Wayne District page
    www.in.gov/indot/2703.htm
Public Comment Session